GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1054
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
COMMISSIONING OF RESEARCH VESSELS
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Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Ocean Development has commissioned the research vessels Sagar Purvi and Sagar Sampada to assess the impact of Tsunami on the marine life and water quality;

(b) if so details thereof;

(c) whether these vessels are equipped with enough sophisticated machines to carry on the research work on marine plants etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

a) Yes Sir, FORV (Fisheries Oceanographic Research Vessel) Sagar Sampada and the Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) Sagar Purvi ware deployed for assessment of the effect of Tsunami on the marine life.

b) FORV Sagar Sampada was deployed to understand the nature of the sediment and quality and quantity of benthos inhabiting the sediments in the Tsunami affected areas. This study was conducted in two phases between 5th January and 19th January 2005 and 23 January to 16 February 2005. Hydrographic conditions viz. dissolved oxygen, temperature, salinity, nutrients; Chlorophyll particulate organic carbon; phytoplankton and zooplankton were studied. During the 2nd phase which covered the Andaman Sea, environment and productivity, plankton diversity, survey of marine mammals, marine benthos and demersal fishery was studied. The studies on Sagar Purvi (5 January to 19 January, 2005) revealed that the marine ecology is affected by the Tsunami in the seas off Vizhinjam and Thiruvanantpuram where depleted fish stock was also observed. However, the tidal surge has largely spared the marine life in the near shore regions of Kollam and Tamilnadu coast.

c) Yes Sir, both these vessels are equipped with sophisticated equipments to carry out these studies.

FORV Sagar Sampada and CRV Sagar Purvi are equipped with state-of-the art scientific equipments like- CTD (Conductivity, Temperature and Deptt Profiler), Rosette, Niskin bottles, Multiple Plankton Nets, Oxygen Analyser, Multi-channel Autoanalyser, various echosounders, fishing gears, grabs, corers, Spetrophotometer, Spectroflorimeter, Nutrient Profiler, Plankton nets etc..